

Area's Industrial 'Citizens' Among Nations Best

Refinery One of City's Largest, Best Citizens

The reason one city is better than another is generally due to the citizens that make up the community—and the reason Torrance is enjoying a period of growth unexcelled in the West is the fact that many of its industrial "citizens" are among the nation's best.

Most Americans don't look upon sizeable corporations as citizens of a community but they are exactly that. Corporations pay taxes, keep lawns mowed, support hospitals, provide jobs, and do all the other

big and little things that individual citizens do to keep homes and businesses running. One of the largest "citizens" of Torrance is General Petroleum's sprawling Mobilgas refinery at the intersection of

190th Street and Crenshaw. To the passerby, the refinery looks more like a plumber's night mare than a "citizen," but the corporation pays taxes, keeps its lawns mowed—and still finds time to process more than 100,000 barrels of crude oil into gasoline every day of the year. This makes it both a busy place and a good citizen.

Manager Active
Beginning with the manager, A. E. Thompson, nearly all employees participate in one form or another of community activities. "Tommy" Thompson holds posts on the Torrance Industrial Tax Committee, is president-elect of the Rotary Club, and a member of the Chamber

of Commerce and similar organizations. As the man in charge of the staff and machinery that turn out Mobilgas in huge quantities, Tommy realizes that his duties include keeping the corporation for which he works a good citizen of Torrance. On down the line, engineers, draftsmen, policemen, truck drivers, steamfitters, and all other categories are represented in just about every community enterprise and undertaking that can be named.

Do Major Designs
Another large department that has been housed at Torrance since May, 1953, is General Petroleum's engineering department under the direction of Charles M. Reading, manager. The men in this group are principally occupied with conducting all of the major design work and construction supervision for the company—and they are also keenly interested in Torrance activities. The de-

partment came to Torrance from Vernon, and is now an important occupant of the attractive and functional Administration building.

When Torrance has occasion to look to its aesthetic side, the Mobilgas refinery men point to their efforts at keeping the grounds of the 773-acre plant as neat and tidy as can be. Some 150 acres of the property that are not needed for refinery purposes at the moment are turned over to farmers, who till the soil not only to obtain food crops but also to present a carefully-groomed appearance for the refinery. Another 200 acres are sprayed to prevent weed growth, and nearly another 100 acres are kept harrowed, to present the best appearance possible. These policies are identical with the purposes private citizens have in mind when they keep their tiny lawns mowed and flower patches cultivated.

Aids Hospital
When a community like Tor-

rance needs a hospital addition, all citizens are asked to contribute so that the less fortunate will have modern facilities in which to recuperate. When the Torrance Memorial recently needed funds, General Petroleum forwarded \$60,000 to the committee as its part of the community-wide drive. Because the refinery is larger than most "citizens," its operators felt it should contribute a larger amount to be truly representative of its part in the community.

Never Ending Job
So neighbors will find the refinery not unpleasant to look upon, the refinery is being painted from stem to stern at a cost of some half-million dollars. The program will be a continuous one, in which the painters will begin all over again as soon as they have gone through the refinery once. The paint will maintain the equipment against the ravages of weather—but undoubtedly not a half-million dollars' worth. The paint will make the refinery a more pleasant part of Torrance, however.

In its long, long battle against air and stream pollutants, the refinery management has spent many millions of dollars since 1928. Dozens of expensive devices and even giant units of the refinery have been built to keep irritants from entering the atmosphere. Smog isn't made in the refinery.

Water Conserved
Waste water, used by the thousands of gallons hourly, is treated and chemically purified to remove oil and other undesirable substances before it is discharged into the county sewage system. Even the omission of odors is restrained through specially installed facilities and recently the refinery demonstrated new devices that trap hydro-carbons during tank and truck-filling operations, preventing them from getting into the atmosphere.

The refinery has been a citizen—and it hopes a good one—of Torrance since 1928. Through the depression years of the 1930's it grew constantly. During the dark years of the war, new giant units were installed to increase the refinery's productivity, and make it a more important part of Torrance's industrial life.

More Progress Due
Within the coming months, even more progress will be noted at the refinery as new devices are placed "on stream"

Four-Lane Highway Rushed For Popular Marineland

A four-lane divided highway is being rushed to completion on Palos Verdes Drive South before the summer season brings thousands of sightseers to Portuguese Bend and Marineland of the Pacific. Inside the grounds at Marineland, further improvements are being made in preparation for the busy tourist season.

A seal stadium is under construction on the seaward side of the Oceanarium. Meanwhile Captain Winston's talented sea lions are holding forth in temporary quarters. Although seven of the troupe are veterans of the movies and television, Tommy Tucker most recently appeared in Disney's "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea."

A picnic area is also being landscaped and will be available to persons visiting Marineland. Parking lots are being enlarged and the Marineland Post Office will be officially dedicated and in operation March 17.

More Jobs Expected At Harvey

When the expansion program at Harvey Aluminum, 19200 South Western Ave., is completed sometime during the middle of the year, new employment opportunities will become available to the many skilled production personnel, technicians, and engineers residing in the Harbor Area. So basic is Harvey's production output in relation to the labor scene, that for every person the company employs, 60 others are employed in outside industry.

To produce a constantly improved gasoline. As the demand for better fuels continues, the engineers of the Flying Red Horse companies develop new and better methods of producing them. Side by side with industrial progress, however, will be continued emphasis on every one's part of making the Mobilgas refinery and its people the kind of citizens that are dedicated to making Torrance an even better place in which to live and work.

For though the "citizen" be a big corporation or a private individual, his contributions alone can make his community the better place he hopes it to become.

Torrance Mill Ships Aluminum Across Nation

Living up to its slogan, "Making the Most of Aluminum... For Everyone," Harvey Aluminum produces aluminum shapes for practically every field that utilizes the versatile metal. From the local mill, Harvey ships aluminum to thousands of fabricating companies throughout the country in such industries as aircraft, automotive, textile, residential and commercial construction, electronic, truck trailer, ship building, furniture, appliance, agriculture, house trailer, sporting equipment, etc.

Included in the many shapes being made by the 40-year-old Torrance firm are extrusions in all alloys and sizes, special extrusions, press forgings, hollow sections, structurals, rod and bar, forging stock, pipe, tubes, impact extrusions, aluminum screw machine products, and related products.

TV CENTER

There are more television stations operating within the boundaries of the United States than in all the other countries of the world combined, according to communications statistics.

TEMPERATURE RANGE
Temperatures in the United States in September are frequently higher than those recorded in June and July.

When a community like Tor-

rance needs a hospital addition, all citizens are asked to contribute so that the less fortunate will have modern facilities in which to recuperate.

FELKER DI-MET...

A world renowned name for Torrance-built products!

Back in the early twenties an inquisitive Torrance youngster with an inventive mind had a hobby of converting semi-precious rocks to exquisite gemstones. But cutting the rock samples by conventional means was slow and tedious. Impatience to see the centuries old beauty hidden within the rocks spurred the start of a new industry in Torrance.

Today, Felker Manufacturing Company is recognized as the world's largest manufacturer of diamond abrasive cut-off wheels. Sales made to the lapidary industry, though sizable, are dwarfed by the volume of Felker DI-MET diamond wheels now going to other industries... ceramics, glass, concrete, masonry... ceramics laboratories, stone and many others.

New applications of Felker products forever presented new problems. For each, another development resulted, or an important improvement was made. Through the years, bit by bit, Felker has engineered, perfected and manufactured a completely diversified line of equipment—from diamond abrasive wheels and core drills to specialized machines and diamond micron compounds.

The products of Felker Manufacturing Company—based upon abrasives and machines using diamond abrasives—are now being shipped not only throughout the United States and Canada but across the seven seas for use wherever faster, cheaper, more efficient cutting is required. From a simple hobby has grown an internationally known industry, valuable not only to Torrance but to the many employees who share in its profits.



SINCE

1924

FELKER MANUFACTURING CO. TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA
World's Largest and Oldest Manufacturer of Diamond Abrasive Cut-Off Wheels and Machines



Over 30 Years Serving Torrance Business, Industry

PRECISION PRINTING OF OFFICE AND FACTORY FORMS

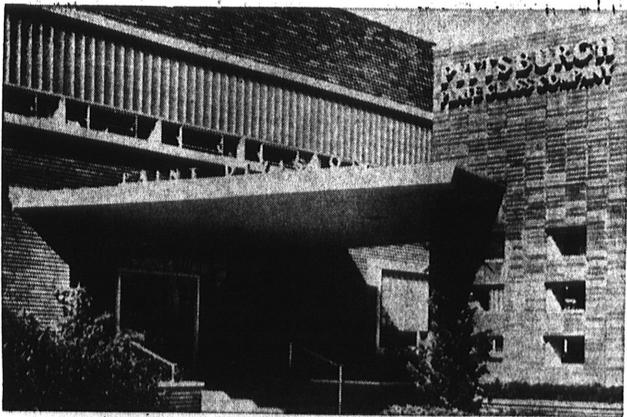
Automatic Printing Co.

Lithographers & Printers
1316 CABRILLO AVENUE

FAirfax 8-6622

ZEnith 0445

Serving The Pacific Coast With The Finest Paints And Finishes



Listed below are some of the types of paints and finishes included in the "Pittsburgh" line and used throughout the growing West Coast Area.

FOR THE HOME

- Sun-Proof Exterior
- Wallhide Rubberized Interior
- Waterspar Varnish
- Waterspar Enamel
- Snolite Finishes
- Florhide Floor Enamel

FOR INDUSTRY

- Aircraft
- Appliance
- Automotive
- Machinery
- Marine
- Railroad

SPECIAL

- Architectural
- Fungicides
- Masonry Paints
- Metal Coatings
- Wood Finishes
- Can Coatings



PITTSBURGH PAINTS

PITTSBURGH PLATE GLASS COMPANY

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA PAINT PLANT — PAINT AND BRUSH DIVISION